

Chicopee Register

SCHOOLS

Education association holds diversity celebration



Science teacher Carol Callahan, math teacher Tracy Allen, Vice Principal Dr. Lisa Lewis and social studies teacher Meghan Reniewicz pose outside Dupont Middle School on Dec. 12 during an initiative that endeavored to foster inclusion for students of all backgrounds.

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – A spirited group of Chicopee educators danced in the rain outside of Dupont Middle School last Saturday afternoon as they participated in a drive-through diversity celebration.

The Dec. 12 event held a spotlight on diversity and inclusion as teachers pledged their support for the academic, social, emotional and cultural needs of families of color in

Chicopee.

“A lot of parents in the community aren’t aware of the [resources] that are out there that could help them advance their child’s education,” said Dr. Lisa Lewis, the Grade 6 vice principal at Dupont Middle School. “We want to assure them that we’re here for them. We want to acknowledge them and help them in every way we can for their children to be successful.”

Last weekend’s festivities were coordinated by the



PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY CHICOPEE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Carol Callahan, a Dupont Middle School teacher, points to the camera during a celebration of diversity that was held at Dupont last Saturday.

Chicopee Educators Association’s African, Latino/Hispanic, Asian and Native American coalition.

Despite the inclement weather, approximately 30 vehicles pulled up to the school during a two-hour span. King considers the affair as a considerable accomplishment for all those who participated.

“We welcomed everyone with open arms, and they welcomed us and thanked us. It was a warm, heartfelt feeling,” said King. “We’re in a tough place right now, but you could see the love and the compassion being exchanged between the teachers and the parents, as

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COMMUNITY



Chicopee landlord Salazar dos Santos, 79, is accused of subjecting female tenants to a wide range unwelcome sexual advance. Several incidents occurred at 27 Linda Ave., pictured above.

Lawsuit filed against landlord accused of sexual harassment

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – Chicopee landlord Salazar dos Santos, 79, is accused of subjecting female tenants to a wide range unwelcome sexual advances. A Dec. 7 lawsuit filed by the U.S. Attorney’s Office alleges the Chicopee landlord of engaging in extensive sexual harassment.

Since the early 1970s, Santos has managed multiple properties in Chicopee, as is noted in the complaint filed by the Justice Dept. It is alleged

that his misconduct began no later than 2008.

The U.S. Attorney’s Office alleges that Santos abused his status as a landlord by forcing female tenants to perform oral sex, exposing his genitals to female tenants, touching the breasts and buttocks of female tenants and engaging in other forced touching without consent.

Santos is also accused of locking female tenants in his office and forcing female ten-

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EDUCATION

Educators vote ‘no confidence’ against DESE chair



STAFF PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI.

A group of educators and supporters, including CEA President Laura Demakis (second to right), SHEA President Scott Beaulieu (second to left) and MTA Vice President Max Page (far right) rally outside of Chicopee High School in June of 2020.

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

BOSTON – Thousands of Massachusetts educators are calling for the resignation of Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commissioner Jeffrey Riley, including in Chicopee.

More than 100 unions representing educators in the state favored a vote of no confidence against Riley for his alleged lack of leadership

during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approximately 20 unions affiliated with the Western Mass. Educator Action Network have joined the campaign to remove Riley from office. As DESE’s direction has constantly changed, educators and students have been left to pick up the pieces.

“The kids are getting hurt,” said Laura Demakis, president of the Chicopee Ed-

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CITY

Cultural Council beautifies West End

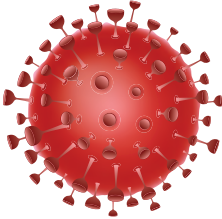
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COMMUNITY

Post 337 marks 75th anniversary

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2021 Big E discount tickets on sale now for holiday giving

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Opening Day tickets (good for use on Sept. 17 only) – \$10

Midway Magic Vouchers – \$25

Six-pack of Big E Cream Puffs - \$25

All tickets, passes and vouchers are “print at home” documents, making the gift a perfect last-minute shopping option. To learn more, visit www.TheBigE.com/holidaytickets.

The 2021 Big E will be jam-packed with food, entertainment and more.



Chicopee landlord Salazar dos Santos, 79, is accused of committing sexual misconduct at 40 Abbey St.



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ants to engage in sexual acts with him in exchange for rent payment benefits or late rent payments.

Santos allegedly used a variety of methods to threaten tenants who resisted his advances. He allegedly said he’d call the authorities on tenants who were on parole, threatening that their children would be taken away by the state if they failed to partake in sexual behavior.

“No one should be forced to provide sexual favors, or otherwise endure sexual harassment, in exchange for housing,” said U.S. Attorney Andrew E. Lelling. “Sexual harassment is illegal under the Fair Housing Act and, especially during a time of increased unemployment and financial stress, my office will aggressively enforce this law to protect hard working women and others subjected to this kind of abusive conduct.”

The properties in question are located at 27-29 Lin-da Ave., 113 Exchange St., 39 Abbey St. and 40 Abbey St. The owners of the properties, listed by the U.S. Attorney’s Office as being two family trusts, are alleged to be liable for Santos’ criminal behavior.

Santos is additionally accused of making unwel-come sexual comments and intimidating female tenants by monitoring them from outside of their apartments.

“For example, over the span of about 18 months from 2008-2010, Defendant dos Santos sexually harassed one female tenant, includ-ing physically assaulting her, on approximately 40-60 different occasions. He would force her to come to his office to pay rent, lock her inside the room with him, take out his penis, touch her sexually under her clothing, and coerce her to perform oral



This residence at 113 Exchange St. was the scene of sexual harassment, committed by landlord Salazar dos Santos.

sex on him,” reads the Justice Dept. complaint.

In 2019, a female tenant resisted Santos’ advances and reported him to the Chicopee Police Department. She obtained a temporary restraining order against Santos, who evicted the tenant almost immediately.

Another female tenant was evicted in 2019 for fail-ing to pay rent – only after she refused Santos’ advances.

“It is appalling that any woman seeking safe, afford-able housing would be met with demands for sex, sexual propositions, unwanted touching, and threats. Such abu-sive conduct by landlords and property managers violates federal law and shocks the conscience,” said Assistant Attorney General Eric Dreiband of the Civil Rights Divi-sion. “The Fair Housing Act protects tenants from sexual harassment and threats by their housing providers, and the Justice Department will work resolutely to hold such predators accountable and to obtain relief for their vic-tims.”

The lawsuit will seek monetary damages in an effort to compensate the victims. Civil penalties and a court order restricting Santos’ contact with tenants will also be sought.

Anyone with informa-tion pertaining to Santos’ misconduct is encouraged to call the U.S. Attorney’s Office at 888-221-6023 or email usama.victimassis-tance@doj.gov.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@tur-ley.com.

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COVID-19 testing will open soon at Chicopee Comp

By Dalton Zbierski
Staff Writer

CHICOPEE – As part of a briefing made prior to the Dec. 15 meeting of City Council, Mayor John Vieau addressed the pandemic, now in its ninth month in Massachusetts, outlining the increased severity of COVID-19.

“I think that it’s very important to talk about the numbers with COVID-19. I’m letting you know that, right now, there are historical highs,” said Vieau.

On Tuesday evening, Vieau reported that there were 840 active cases of COVID-19 in Chicopee. As of Dec. 15, 21 Chicopee residents had succumbed to COVID-19 this year, while 1,080 others recovered from the virus.

After sharing a range of statistics, Vieau pivoted to a more positive development. A municipal COVID-19 testing site will soon be operational at Chicopee Comprehensive High School.

The testing site will be made possible with the assistance of CIC Health, an entity that has assisted multiple communities in the state with COVID-19 testing.

It is expected that the site will operate for four to six hours each day. Vieau didn’t specify when the site will be open.

He noted that the testing operation will last up to three months, unlike other operations in nearby communities that ran for only several days at a time. He credited city workers for their willingness to contribute.

“The reason why we’re able to sustain and do it for so long is because that’s what Chicopee does best. Our employees are stepping up to the plate,” said Vieau. “We could pay top-dollar to have a company come in here and run the test site for us, do it for a couple of nights and be done. Chicopee doesn’t do things that way. We felt that it would be more appropriate to get more tests for our money.”

The testing operation will supported by funds obtained through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, which was signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 27. PCR tests will be administered to Chicopee residents who show proof residency.

“We’ll be able to administer tests and get results within 24 hours,” said Vieau. “I’m excited about this program and I’m excited about the team effort because that’s what it was. The COVID Task Force Team has come together, and I, personally, have asked [municipal] employees throughout the city to volunteer.”

On Dec. 9, the state released the three phases in which COVID-19 vaccinations will be administered. The anticipated vaccination phases, and their respective timelines, go as follows.

Phase One is already underway and will stretch

into February of 2021. Under the current phase, the state is administering vaccines to clinical and non-clinical healthcare employees working in the presence of COVID-19.

First responders and employees at long term care facilities, rest homes, assisted living facilities and congregate care settings such as shelters and corrections additionally fall under Phase One of testing

Phase Two of inoculations is expected to commence next February and conclude in April of 2021. Individuals at high risk for COVID-19, most essential workers and adults over the age of 65 all fall under the second phase.

Phase Three, the final phase, is expected to begin in April. As part of Phase Three, vaccines will be made accessible to all members of the general public.

“[Massachusetts] will have about 300,000 vaccines [by month’s end]. It was initially told to me that it was 400,000 by the end of December, but they’re talking about 300,000 vaccines available in Massachusetts. Pfizer has already deployed theirs, and we’re expecting that the rest of them will be coming from Moderna,” said Vieau.

Before stepping down from the podium, Vieau reminded residents that they must remain diligent in the community-wide fight to curb the spread of the virus.

While the conclusion of the pandemic may be in sight, it will take a concerted effort to bring about the desired results.

“There is a light at the end of the tunnel, and I’m pleading with people to social distance and try to limit your holiday celebrations to immediate members of your household,” said Vieau. “Take that pledge to try to stop the spread of COVID-19 throughout the city of Chicopee and save some lives so we can celebrate next year.”

Vieau noted that Thanksgiving gatherings are partially responsible for the city’s rising case counts. He urged residents to follow safety guidelines and said that safe practices today will make for a better tomorrow.

“That’s the goal. If we do those things now and sacrifice a little bit, I think that the rewards will show next year when we’re really able to celebrate. If you take precautions and be safe during the holiday season, I think it’s in the best interest of the city of Chicopee moving forward,” said Vieau.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer and can be reached at dzbierski@turlley.com.

Editor’s note: Information on the testing site will be update in a future edition of the Register when available.



COURTESY PHOTO.

A diorama will be located outside the Basilica of Saint Stanislaus this weekend in recognition of National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day.

Homeless diorama this weekend in front of Basilica of Saint Stanislaus

CHICOPEE – This weekend, there will be a homeless diorama – an interactive piece of art for contemplation, prayerful remembrance and careful consideration that moves to action – to mark the 30th Anniversary of the Annual Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day.

Each year on or near Dec. 21 (the longest night of the year) we remember our neighbors who have died homeless in the past year, organizers said.

The diorama will be located in front of the Basilica of Saint Stanislaus at 566

Front St. in Chicopee, from sundown on Saturday until midnight Sunday. This will serve as the annual remembrance in a time of social distancing and pandemic.

On Sunday evening at sundown, luminaries will be lit, and at 6 p.m., prayers will be offered by the friars. Please drive by and remember those who have died on the street and all those who are homeless on this longest of nights.

National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day takes place each year on the longest night of the year – the winter solstice.

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68						69						70		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular pickup truck
4. Profoundly wise men
9. Camera company
14. Folk singer DiFranco
15. Passerine birds
16. Plum-shaped fruit used for preserves
17. Popular kids channel
18. Dodgers’ skipper
20. Removes
22. The Atlantic is one
23. Badgerlike mammal
24. Foulness
28. Luke’s mentor
29. Commercial
30. A type of gin
31. Temptress
33. Shuts in an enclosed space
37. Milligram
38. Actress Adams
39. Strive to equal or match
41. Health insurance
42. A detective’s source
43. Small American rails
44. Alfred __, Brit. poet
46. Crest of a hill
49. Atomic #52
50. __ Caesar, comedian
51. Breaks apart
55. Register formally (Brit. sp.)
58. Worker
59. Chemical compound
60. Disgraced newsman
64. Born of
65. Chemical substance
66. Supernatural powers
67. Clothes
68. Indy footballers
69. Moves forward
70. Midway between south and southeast
- CLUES DOWN
1. Driver
2. Bone cavities

3. Menacing
5. Greek mythological figure
6. War-based board game
7. Midway between northeast and east
8. 18-year period in astronomy
9. Mid-century term used to describe Japanese-Americans
10. Large bodies of water
11. Eurasian ryegrass
12. Perform on stage
13. Greek island
19. 10th month of the year (abbr.)
21. One point east of southeast
24. Belgian city
25. Praise excessively
26. River in France
27. Edible lily bulbs
31. Quarterbacks take them
32. Organic compound
34. Tears down (Brit.)
35. Beloved Hollywood alien
36. Unconscious
40. Missouri
41. Firemen use them
45. Pig noise
47. Greatly dismay
48. Imitator
52. Moves by turning over
53. Boxing’s GOAT
54. Swarms with
56. Margarine
57. Feudal superior
59. As fast as can be done
60. Reciprocal of a sine
61. Chinese city
62. Tell on
63. United

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EDITORIAL

Will my U.K. pension affect my Social Security?

By Russell Gloor
Guest columnist

Dear Rusty: I lived and worked in the United Kingdom prior to coming to the U.S. at age 45, which qualified me for a U.K. State Pension worth the equivalent of about \$740 U.S. dollars per month. Since moving to the U.S. I have contributed to the U.S. Social Security system for 14 years and my estimated U.S. Social Security benefit is \$1,643 per month. I have heard about something called “WEP” and must be honest and say I don’t fully understand. Can you provide some advice or references so I can understand what happens to these sums when I retire? I don’t have any other pension income, so understanding these numbers is important. FYI, I hold both U.S. and U.K. passports and will retire in the U.S.A. Signed: Blessed from the UK

Dear Blessed: The “WEP” provision you refer to is known as the “Windfall Elimination Provision.” It affects anyone who is eligible to collect Social Security benefits, but who also has a pension from another entity (corporation, public agency, or foreign country) which did not participate in the U.S. Social Security program (meaning that SS FICA payroll taxes weren’t paid during that employment). WEP will reduce your U.S. Social Security benefit by using a special formula to compute your benefit amount. Generally, the WEP reduction is determined either by the number of years of substantial Social Security covered earnings that you have, or the WEP maximums (one of which is that your U.S. Social Security can’t be reduced by more than half of your non-covered pension). With less than 20 years paying into the U.S. system, you will incur one of the maximum WEP reductions.

Something else important to understand is that the current estimate you have from Social Security doesn’t include the WEP reduction. That estimate assumes that you will continue to earn at your current level until you reach your full retirement age. You haven’t shared your birthdate, but from your email I assume you are now about 60-years-old. I

f you were born in 1959, your full retirement age (FRA) for U.S. Social Security purposes is 66 years and 10 months (if you were born after that your FRA is 67, and if you were born before that subtract 2 months for each year prior to 1959). Your FRA is when you will get your “full” Social Security benefit. If you claim before that (age 62 is the earliest you can claim) your benefit will be reduced (even before WEP), and if you wait beyond your FRA you’ll earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) which will increase your benefit amount. DRCs stop at age 70.

Based upon what you’ve told me, I believe that your WEP reduction will probably be limited to one of the maximums, either half of your monthly U.K. pension, or the maximum for your “eligibility year” (2022?). We don’t yet know what the standard maximum WEP reduction for 2022 will be, but for 2020 it is \$480. That is the most that your Social Security benefit could normally be reduced. But if your U.K. pension is about \$740 U.S. Dollars, then your maximum reduction should be about \$370, because the WEP reduction can’t be more than half of your non-covered (U.K.) pension. So, your U.S. Social Security benefit of \$1,643 will most likely be reduced by about \$370 to about \$1,303. You will need to contact the U.K. pension system to see if any of your U.K. pension will be offset by your U.S. Social Security benefits.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation’s staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Se-

curity Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit our website (amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

GUEST COLUMN

Poinsettias appreciate extra TLC

Every Christmas the poinsettia takes the stage, front and center, in grocery and box store displays. The deep red bracts lure buyers to make them part of their holiday decorating. Pretty? For sure, but without proper care, the plant won’t have a chance past New Year’s Day. Let’s learn what we can do to keep this favorite looking its best throughout the holiday season and then some.

It’s important that you start off with a healthy plant. Choose a poinsettia with dark green foliage all the way to the soil line. Color should completely cover the bracts on the upper portion of the plant. Avoid plants whose flowers (located in the center of the bracts) show pollen. If pollen is evident, the plant is old. Be wary of those that are displayed in plastic or paper sleeves or even those that are elbow to elbow. Poinsettias need room to spread out, and the longer they are cramped, the more likely it is that their quality will be impacted. Wilting plants are also best avoided, as this may indicate more than dry soil alone.

Poinsettias are cold sensitive. Temperatures under 50 degrees for even a few minutes can damage the plant. Therefore, insert into a bag or protective sleeve for the ride home from the store and do not leave in an unheated car while you run other errands! Once home, position the poinsettia in a location where it will receive indirect light for at least six hours a day. Avoid drafts, warm or cold, and place far enough away from windows to prevent the foliage from touching cold glass. Chances are if you are comfortable inside, your poinsettia will be as well. Temperatures from 65 to 70 degrees during the day to around 55 at night will extend its life.

Check the plant often to see if it needs water. If the soil is dry, water until droplets leak through the drainage holes in the pot. Saucers shouldn’t accumulate water. Dump the excess out after each watering so the plant won’t reabsorb it and become waterlogged. Soil that remains soaking wet is likely to cause root rot. A visual indication of this

irreversible disease is curled, wilting foliage and bracts. Hold off on fertilizing the plant while it is in bloom.

It’s unfortunate that few people keep their poinsettias past the holiday season. When I was a kid my Mom succeeded at getting hers to bloom again the following Christmas. Here’s what to do if you’d like to try it: In early April cut back the plant to eight inches. Fertilize with an all purpose houseplant fertilizer once a month. New growth should appear by the end of May. After the danger of frost has passed, move the plant outdoors. Continue to water but increase fertilization to every two weeks. Pinch plants in late June or early July to promote bushy growth. At this time you may also wish to repot the poinsettia. Select a pot one size larger, filling around the root ball with a good potting soil. Bring the plant indoors as temperatures fall.

The poinsettia is photoperiodic, and long nights of uninterrupted darkness encourage it to bloom. In greenhouses, growers go to great lengths to withhold light, as even small amounts can delay or stop the plant from setting bud. At home, putting the plant in the closet for 14 hours each night is your best bet. Most people get on a 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. schedule beginning on Oct. 1, and continue it for eight to 10 weeks until color shows on the bracts. Night temperatures should be no higher than 70 degrees or flowering may be delayed.

While my Mom achieved colorful bracts, the plant itself was a bit leggy and the foliage not so green. Perhaps more fertilizer and a harder pinch would have made our experiment more successful. Give it a try yourself and maybe you will have even better results!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to ekennedy@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.



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Send letters to: The Chicopee Register,
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email chicopeeregister@turley.com.
The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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Chicopee Register

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DIVERSITY from page 1

we safely went up to their vehicles to give them a gift and a flyer of what we're doing and what we're about."

King explained that most educators enter the profession in order to give back. The event offered a prime opportunity to do so while having fun.

With Christmas music playing and building custodian Shawn St. George dressed as Santa Claus, the educators on-hand did the "Cha-Cha Slide" and enjoyed being in each other's presence, which they noted is a rarity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I work with some really genuine people," said King. "They are so authentic, and their hearts are always in the right place. I don't even call them colleagues anymore. I call them family because that's what they are to me. We love each other; we support each other because we know that we're all we have sometimes."

The aura of positivity seemingly rubbed off on the drivers who stopped by the school parking lot on Dec. 12, and the giving went both ways. King explained that one parent even gifted the educators a range of heartfelt items.

"It brought tears to our eyes. Here we are giving, but we got something in return. It was so sweet," said King. "There was one parent with tears in her eyes saying, 'You don't know how much this means to us. We know you guys care. We know you're working hard. We know this has been difficult for you guys.'"

The drive-through initiative will not go down as a one-time occurrence. The CEA/ALANA have organized a similar informational session to be held at the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee tomorrow, Dec. 19, from noon until 2 p.m.

All are welcome to attend, and one is not required to have a child in the school system to stop by, as was evidenced on Dec. 12.

"One lady drove through and said, 'I don't go to

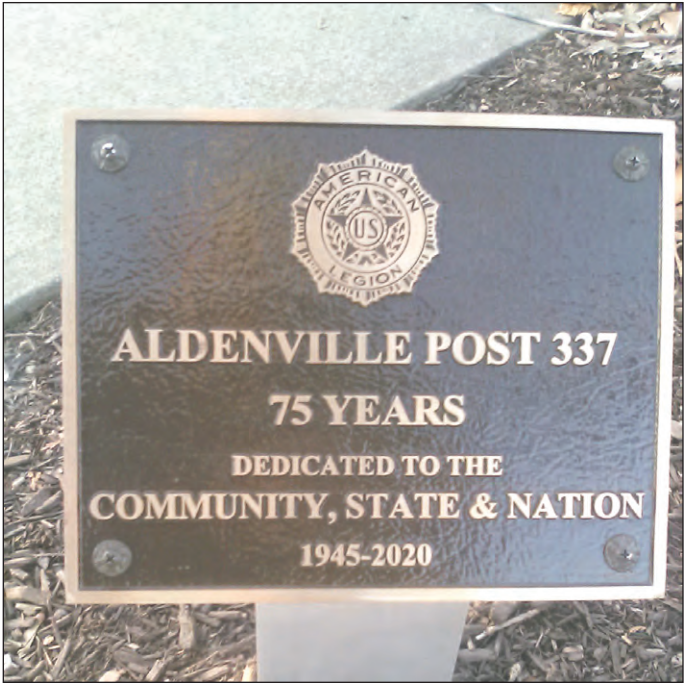


A group of Chicopee teachers have fun during a Dec. 13 drive through initiative that spread awareness regarding the opportunities available to Chicopee children of all backgrounds.

school here and I don't have children but I just wanted to see what's going on because you guys look like you're having a great time.' She happened to be a person who works at Elms College. She took one of our flyers and said, 'I'm going to bring this information to Elms. Maybe we can be a part of this.'"

More information on the CEA is available on its Facebook page.

Dalton Zbierski is a Staff Writer, who can be contacted at dzbierski@turley.com.



COURTESY PHOTO

Aldenville Post 337 celebrated its 75th anniversary this year.

Aldenville Post 337 celebrates 75th anniversary with plaque

CHICOPEE – Located on the common off Grattan Street in Aldenville, a plaque was placed in recognition of the 75th anniversary of Aldenville Post 337.

A chartered member of the American Legion since 1945, as the inscription states, Post 337 has dedicated itself to the community, state, and nation, members said.

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Sports

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ICE HOCKEY

No locker rooms, scrums in hockey modifications

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – The parking lots at Olympia Ice Center and Fitzpatrick Rink could be very crowded this winter with students being forced to change outdoors as part of the modifications made to ice hockey for the 2020-2021 season.

High school guidelines from the office of Energy and Environmental Affairs required locker rooms to be closed at ice hockey arenas.

The only reason the locker rooms can be used is for players to use the bathroom and sinks. “Participants must wear-in/wear-out clothes or dress in the park-

ing lot or other designated area,” the guidelines state.

The change is to limit close contact among teammates due to locker rooms being very congested spaces with a lot of pads and equipment taking up even more space.

One change for hockey versus other sports is the ability for players to wear gaiters on the ice. Typically, face coverings for players and fans alike in most sports requires a mask that has loops that go over the ear, securely covering the mouth and nose. Hockey players are allowed to wear gaiters, which were viewed as less secure by some. Gaiter will be allowed for hockey players provided they are

multi-ply.

One of the tougher parts to comply with is the fact only 20 players will be allowed to dress for the game, and some extended bench areas will be needed for both teams in order to social distance enough. Typically, 22 players are allowed on the roster for varsity games. Only three coaches will be allowed on benches for games, though that is close to average for most hockey teams.

Having more than one player in the penalty box will also be a new challenge as only one player is allowed in the penalty box at a time. According to the guidelines, other spaces must be designated for players to serve penalties.

“One person in the penalty box at a time,” the guidelines state. “If another player must be in a designated ‘auxiliary box/location,’ they must be social distanced either outside the penalty box or in the bench area as close to the penalty box as possible; when possible the second and or subsequent penalized players must move to the penalty box upon the exit of the previously penalized player.”

There is in option for subsequent players to serve penalties on their bench if necessary.

The biggest change fans will notice with play on the ice is the elimination of “scrums.” These are plays typically when multiple players go after a loose

puck in a corner of the ice. They usually take place on either side of the goal.

The guidelines only allow for one player from each team to be involved in a scrum. Once a third player joins, play must be stopped by the referee. Play also will be stopped if the scrum lasts more than five seconds.

High schools played fall sports in geographically-formed leagues in order to limit contact between too many schools. The plan will be similar for hockey, but leagues will look different because there are fewer teams. There were also no restrictions placed on co-op programs and they will be allowed to play.

COMMUNITY



FILE PHOTOS

Woody Pitkat was a big winner at the Sunoco World Series event.

Seekonk Speedway announces events for next season

SEEKONK – Seekonk Speedway is looking ahead to a fresh, exciting 2021 season. On Dec. 3, the Massachusetts third-mile announced the full schedule of events for 2021 -- one that will mark the 75th anniversary of full-time racing. Seekonk Speedway looks forward to welcoming fans back to the grandstands safely, as the recent vaccine announcements for COVID-19 are welcomed news and talks continue with the state of Massachusetts.

Multiple major events headline the 2021 schedule -- including the ISMA Supermodified and Boston Louie NEMA Midget and NEMA Lite Races (June 9), the annual \$10,000 to win Open Wheel Wednesday headlined by the Tri Track Open Modified Series (June 30), the inaugural \$10,000 to win Bay State Summer Classic with the PASS Pro Stocks (July 28), the annual DAV Fall Classic (Sept. 24 to 25) and the Haunted Hundred, headlined by Tri Track (Oct. 23).

The slate includes 18 Saturday Night Showdowns -- showcasing Seekonk's premiere Pro Stocks, Everett's Auto Parts Late Models, Helger's South Coast Power Equipment Sportsman and Chaz Auto Body Sport Trucks. It will also see the return of the Fast Friday Series -- with 16 events for the Nick's Pit Stop Legends Cars, Helger's Pure Stocks, Sport 4's and Seekonk Grand Prix Bandaleros. Seekonk is pleased to welcome back all divisions and their sponsors, while adding Chaz Auto Body to the team of division sponsors.

With COVID-19 shutting down Saturday night competition and Thrill Shows in 2020, and only Fast Friday drivers hitting the track due to regulations from the state of Massachusetts to stop the spread of the virus, it's only fitting that the 75th anniversary be celebrated in 2021. Seekonk's Fast Friday classes ran a 10-race

See **SEEKONK** page 8

COMMUNITY

Kolodziey steps down as Pioneers GM



FILE PHOTOS

Greg Kolodziey, longtime general manager of the Western Mass. Pioneers, has stepped down.

Mutiny GM Ferrara takes helm

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW — Along with being the longtime boys' varsity soccer coach at Ludlow High School, Greg Kolodziey has also been the General Manager of the Western Mass. Pioneers for more than ten years.

Kolodziey recently stepped down as the Pioneers G.M. due to personal reasons.

“I’m excited about some new challenges that lie ahead,” Kolodziey said. “I hope to spend more time on the soccer field doing what I enjoy most, coaching kids, and assisting and encouraging them to be good students so once they get through the graduation line, they are ready to do good, positive things in life.”

Kolodziey is still planning to continue coaching the boys' varsity soccer team at his alma mater in the fall of 2021. He also coaches a Western United Pioneers squad.



The New England Mutiny and Western Mass. Pioneers share a home stadium now. Mutiny owner Joe Ferrara was named the Pioneers GM.

Joe Ferrara, who like Kolodziey is a lifelong resident of Ludlow, has been named as the new General Manager of the Western Mass. Pioneers. He's also the owner of the New England Mutiny and is the Commissioner of the United Women's Soccer League.

“The Pioneers have a great support staff and the Mutiny also have a great support staff, so I think I’ll be able to run both organizations without very much difficulty,” Ferrara said. “The biggest challenge right now is that we still don’t know what’s going to be happening next spring.”

The Pioneers and the Mutiny, who both play their home matches at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, didn't play any matches in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We’re hoping to have a season next year, but we’re planning for several different scenarios,” Ferrara said. “A normal

regular season, a shortened season, a season without fans, or no season at all.”

Before Kolodziey stepped down from his position, he and Ferrara shared the same office at Lusitano Stadium.

“I do have a lot of respect for Greg and his family,” Ferrara said. “I would like to meet with him about the Pioneers.”

The Pioneers, who had a very successful 2019 campaign, are coached by Federico Molinari.

“Federico is a very good soccer coach,” Ferrara said. “I’m looking forward to working with him on a daily basis.”

The Pioneers assistant coaches are Dennis Gomes, Jay Willis, and John Voight.

The Pioneers are members of the USL 2 League and compete in the Northeast Division of the Eastern Conference.

The USL 2 League G.M.

See **PIONEERS** page 8

Figure skating event cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic

WILLIAMSTOWN – This decision was based on the Bay State Games overriding concern to protect the health and safety of all participants, coaches, judges, volunteers, and spectators. Other factors that lead to this decision include state guidelines limiting public events, the uncertainty of whether the Williams College Lansing Chapman Rink will open in 2021, current limitations on use of Williams College facilities by outside groups and protocol requirements from national figure skating governing bodies.

“It is with great disappointment that we announce we will be unable to host the Bay State Games figure skating competition in Williamstown in 2021,” said Bay State Games Executive Director Kevin Cummings. “For the last 35 years, it has been a privilege to bring skaters and their families to Berkshire County for this longtime winter tradition. While our participants have always enjoyed travelling to the region for the event

which has had a positive economic impact for local hotels and restaurants, many factors related to the pandemic prevent us from returning in the Winter of 2021”.

Bay State Games will continue to evaluate the possibility of hosting a live skating event in Massachusetts later in 2021 or as part of the Summer Games should the impact of the pandemic and restrictions improve. Potentially hosting virtual skating events later in the year is also under consideration. Future event options for 2021 are being investigated as federal, state, and local board of health protocols continue to be monitored. Bay State Games remains hopeful it can return to Berkshire County for 2022 events and beyond.

Updated information regarding the status of Bay State Games figure skating events will be posted on the Bay State Games website as soon as it is confirmed.

Hall of Fame concludes Games

UNCASVILLE, Conn. – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and Gazelle Group today concluded the season-opening event known as “Bubbleville.” Games were played Nov. 25 – Dec. 4 at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut with 25 teams taking the court.

Bubbleville housed several events relocated and reimagined due to COVID-19 and provided a controlled environment with teams and event staff adhering to tribal, government, and NCAA health and safety protocols and testing requirements. All games were played without fans in attendance.

Throughout the 10-day event, the game schedule continually evolved due to a number of COVID-related circumstances. In the end, 26 games were safely played in large part thanks to Mirimus and Hartford Health-Care. Both groups joined Bubbleville with live event COVID-19 protocol experience with the NBA and Viacom respectively. The Bubbleville Testing Team was led by Rachel Lattner, Chelsea Johnson and Jen Tempone.

Mohegan Sun and the Tribal Health

Department also proved to be an invaluable partner for the event with the ability to provide a premier arena, beautiful accommodations and private catering, in addition to their extensive COVID protocols which have successfully been in place for several months.

With a combination of PCR and Saliva testing, 2,800 tests were administered among 1,075 people including event staff, players, coaches, support staff and court-side media on-site. In the nearly two-week testing period, three positive tests were discovered, leading to two programs leaving the event before participating in game action and one matchup cancelled on what was scheduled to be the final day of the event.

With the support of the event’s various health partners, Bubbleville was able to adhere to all safety protocols and enact tracing procedures as needed. To learn more about the event, visit <https://www.hoophall.com/events/bubbleville> or follow @hoophall #Bubbleville on Twitter and Instagram.

PIONEERS from page 7

meetings are normally held in Florida in December, but they’re going to be held virtual in January. The 2021 schedule will be released at that time.

The Pioneers qualified to play in the U.S. Open Cup last year, which was canceled. They’re hoping to play in the 2021 Open Cup tournament.

“It’ll be great if we do play in the Open Cup next year,” Ferrara said. “It gives the smaller clubs the chance to play with the big boys.”

The Mutiny had played games in several different communities before coming to Ludlow in 2019.

“Being able to have the Mutiny play home matches at Lusitano Stadium is very special to me,” Ferrara said. “I played games there when I was in high school and the atmosphere is great at the Stadium.”

The Mutiny celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2019 and Ferrara has only missed one match since he formed the team in 1999.

After taking a year off from soccer for the first time in many years, Ferrara is ready to watch both of his soccer teams play next summer.

“Last summer was the first time in 20 years that I wasn’t involved in soccer and it was refreshing. Soccer seasons can be a grind at times, especially when you’re not succeeding on the field,” Ferrara said. “I’m ready to go now and the players are also ready to get back on the field again.”

While the 2020 United Women’s Soccer League regular season was canceled, a couple of showcase tournaments were held in Michigan and Florida last summer.

The Mutiny, who are members UWS Eastern Conference, do have several players from Western Mass. listed on their roster.

“Having the local soccer players play for the Mutiny really means a lot to me,” Ferrara said. “It’s nice to have players from Granby, Monson, Agawam, and Ludlow on the team. We’re represented by ten communities in Western Massachusetts. There are a lot of talented high school girls’ soccer players from this area.”

Several Mutiny players have been signed with N.W.S.L. and a few have played for professional teams in Europe.

Jill Serafino is the Mutiny General Manager and Jeb Booth is planning on returning as the Mutiny head coach in 2021.

SEEKONK from page 7

slate in front of no spectators in 2020, however, they continued to showcase youth talent and some of the best racing Seekonk offers through the track’s YouTube channel.

“Our schedule includes a bit of something for everyone who is a race fan in the region,” Ed St. Germain, Director of Business Development at Seekonk Speedway, said. “We’re excited for all of our special events, but above all, we can’t wait to welcome back our great fans and get our premiere Saturday night divisions back on the track in 2021.”

The season opens with two Test and tune sessions on April 10 and 24, while opening weekend returns on Saturday and Sunday, May 1-2. Saturday will include the Classic Car Show and Swap Meet fans have come to love, with burn out drags and race practice. On Sunday, May 2, the engines fire in a race competition for the first time with the Pro Stocks, Late Models, Sportsman, Trucks and Spectator Drags. The season rolls from this starting point in May all the way through October, with more than 45 events planned.

Of the touring divisions included, two of them will visit Seekonk more than once -- with the prestigious Tri Track Open Modified Series bringing their top Modified talent for Open Wheel Wednesday (June 30) and the Haunted Hundred (October 23). Both races have a large purse and always attract the best Modified talent in the region. New for 2021, the American Canadian Tour (ACT) will also join the Haunted Hundred, along with the return of the Pro All Star Series (PASS) Super Late Models. All three races as part of the season-finale will be 100 laps, matching the Haunted “Hundred” name.

PASS, New England’s premier touring Super Late Model division, will return to Seekonk for three events overall in 2021 -- including the big \$10,000 to win race on Wednesday, July 28. PASS will also help headline the two races that will close the season -- the annual Fall Classic, with a 150-lapper on Sept. 25, and the Haunted Hundred.

The track welcomes back five Thrill Shows to the schedule -- with a show for Memorial Day (May 29), Independence Day (July 3), Mid-Summer Spectacular (July 31), Labor Day (Sept. 4) and the Pumpkin Smash (Oct. 9). Note that all Thrill Shows are on Saturday night’s -- giving weekly competitors the night off. There will also be a special event on Sunday, Aug. 8 -- headlined by the return of Monster Trucks and the first ever Spectator Drag race -- where drivers will double up and actually race for multiple laps together on the track, instead of just in a one-on-one format.

As part of the weekly slate, track champions will be crowned in all nine divisions. Championship battles for all divisions except the Pro Stocks will include as part of the DAV Fall Classic weekend on Sept. 24 and 25, as the Fall Classic returns to a two-day race format, with a practice session on Thursday night, Sept. 23. The Pro Stock title battle wraps on Saturday, Sept. 18, on Ocean State Oil Night, allowing drivers to compete with PASS at the Fall Classic.

The Phil’s Propane Triple Crown Series returns after a year off due to COVID, with a three-race, extra distance, set of races for all of Seekonk’s divisions. The Pro Stock Triple Crown Series races will be 60 laps, while the Late Models will shift to 45 laps. The Sportsman and Sport Trucks remain at 35, while the Pure Stocks, Sport 4’s and Legends Cars are set for 30. As

always, the Seekonk Grand Prix Bandolero division runs 15 laps for all of their events, but will also crown a Triple Crown champion.

Phil’s Propane Triple Crown Series Dates:

Pro Stocks: June 5, July 16, Aug. 21

Late Models: May 22, June 26, Aug. 21

Sportsman: May 15, June 19, Aug. 21

Sport Trucks: May 8, June 12, Aug. 21

Legends Cars: June 25, July 30, Aug. 20

Pure Stocks: June 18, July 16, Aug. 20

Sport 4: June 11, July 23, Aug. 20

Bandolero: June 4, July 9, Aug. 20

The Everett’s Auto Parts Diamond Races are on the schedule, with three special events for the Pro Stocks and the Late Models. All of these races will be 50 laps for both divisions, including a night where both classes run the 50’s on Saturday, Aug. 14.

Everett’s Auto Parts Diamond Race Dates:

Pro Stocks: June 26, July 24, Aug. 14

Late Models: June 19, July 17, Aug. 14

The Troy City Tactical Spectator Drag Series is back, with drivers set to compete in a 10-race series starting on May 2 and ending on Oct. 9. In the middle, drivers will thrill fans in front of both Saturday night crowds and Thrill Show fans.

The Power 5 Series will return for Helger’s Southcoast Power Equipment Sportsman, with five races set for 30 laps instead of 25, with a bit of extra purse money on the line courtesy of Helger’s. Sponsorship is available for Power 5 races for the remainder of Seekonk’s Saturday night divisions.

The schedule also includes the special returns of Military Night, Youth Sports Night, the STAR and NEAR Antique Racer divisions, R.I. Shriners Night (with Trike Races), Fans on Parade, Scout Night, the Pit Party, Phil’s Propane night, Helger’s Southcoast Power Equipment night and the annual Fan Appreciation night sponsored by Everett’s Auto Parts.

Seekonk looks forward to welcoming back a long list of supporters for the 2021 season, and can’t thank those who stepped up in 2020 enough. See below for a full list of 2021 sponsors to this point:

Everetts Auto Parts, Helger’s Southcoast Power Equipment, Phil’s Propane, Ocean State Oil, Solar Therapeutics, PEPSI, T. Moreshead Landscaping, Sunoco Race Fuels, American Racer, Elmwood Dodge, Bristol Toyota, First Ford, Troy City Tactical, Shriners Childrens Hospital, Roger Williams Zoo, Precision Harley Davidson, Columbus Energies, Chick Fil A, Seekonk Grand Prix, Chaz Auto Body, Nick Lascuola Racing, Lambert Brothers Racing, Spring Villa Memory Care, Viper Graphics, Nick’s Pit Stop, Nat’s Racing Engines, KC’s Burger Bar, Miller Brewing, Coors Light, WCTK Cat Country, Four Town Farms

The full schedule is subject to change.

Seekonk Speedway will release additional updates about the 2021 season when available. For more information, follow the track on all social media channels and visit seekonkspeedway.com. Please stay tuned for ticket release dates for advanced purchase.

Fans should keep a lookout for new episodes of the Seekonk Speedway podcast series over the winter months, giving you a step back in time, a view of the present and a look into the future.



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Way Finders provides help with rent, bills

By Michael Harrison
mharrison@turley.com

REGION — While some people are fretting over getting home for the holidays this year, others are worried about having a roof over their heads at all.

A lack of affordable housing has been an issue long before this year began, but the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated it. The hit the economy has taken because of the virus includes an erosion of jobs and the income that comes with it. This not only puts homeowners and renters in a bind, but landlords as well – particularly those who owe mortgages on their investment properties.

Way Finders, a nonprofit organization serving Western Mass., is working with government agencies such as the Town of Monson Community Preservation Committee and the Massachusetts Dept. of Housing and Community Development to offer a lifeline to those who need it.

A variety of programs are

offered and many are available to eligible residents of Hampden County. One specific to Monson residents can provide up to \$5,000 per household that is in arrears on rent, mortgage, and utility bills; that type of assistance is also available for those who live outside the town but reside in the county.

There’s also help with security deposits and other move-in costs, deposits for utilities and other needs facing people trying to find a home or stay in the one they already occupy.

In addition to emergency financial assistance, Way Finders has a variety of programs to help residents learn how to create a better, more secure life, including:

Credit Success: Way Finders is nonprofit nationally certified by HUD, CHAPA, and the NeighborWorks Nationally Industry Standards. Credit Success is a financial education program that offers educational workshops, individual support, and guidance to anyone in the community. The program helps families and individuals reach their goals, whether they want to buy a house or a car, pay off student loan debt, or learn how to build excellent credit. Call 413-233-



COURTESY PHOTO

Hampden County residents facing eviction or who need assistance securing suitable and affordable housing can turn to Way Finders, a non-profit that offers a variety of programs, including help with paying utility bills, finding employment, credit and financial planning counseling, and more.

1621 or email homeownership@wayfinders.org

Become a Landlord: For those who already own investment property or would like to.

Way Finders is always interested in partnerships with landlords who want to offer affordable homes in good repair and offers education, counseling and other resources to support them. Call 413-233-1542 or email landlord-services@wayfinders.org

Employment Support: Addresses barriers to employment, includes one-on-one career counseling, resumé and cover letter writing, job search support, interview training, a Job Readiness Certificate program, and much more, including lack of childcare, transportation and education. There is also help with substance abuse issues. Call 413-233-1500, Monday-Friday 9 a.m.4 p.m., email info@wayfinders.org or fill out a contact form at wayfinders.org/contact

For more information about Way Finders programs, call (413) 233-1600, email housing-support@wayfinders.org, or visit wayfinders.org. To fill out an application, go to wayfinders.org/covid.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD20P2079EA
Estate of:
Alice Mary Archambault
Date of Death: 08/01/2020
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Dean V Archambault** of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Dean V Archambault** of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **110:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/06/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 09, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
12/18/2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600
Docket No. HD20P2056EA
Estate of: Mark S. Higgins
Also Known As:
Mark Higgins
Date of Death: July 4, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Daniel S. Higgins** of Chicopee, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Daniel S. Higgins of Chicopee, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses

of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
12/18/2020

**SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A**

Notice is hereby given by **Interstate Towing, Inc.** pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on **December 25, 2020** at Interstate Towing, Inc the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper’s lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

1998 Buick Regal
VIN:2G4WB52K0W1495860
David Allen Kanleuven
39 Fairfax St
Somerville, MA 02144

2000 Nissan Maxima
VIN: JN1CA31DY0T524274
Danielle Roberto
13 Ken Ln
Granby, MA 01033

2001 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGES15561H513309

2001 Toyota Corolla
VIN: 1NXBR12E91Z472118
Angel Matos Perez
755 Worthington St
Springfield, MA 01105

2002 Dodge Dakota
VIN: 1B7HL38X62S700920
Aaron Eli
190 Harvard Dr
Stamford, CT 06902

2003 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCM66523A019737
Larhonda F Deveaux
19 Woodway Rd, Apt 28
Stamford, CT 06907

2003 Honda Civic
VIN: 1HGEM21963L020891
Jenemy Martir
46 Coral St Apt 2
Worcester, Ma 01604

2003 Hyundai Elantra
VIN: KMHDN45D73U593063
Roseann Maher
19 Lincoln St Apt 1S
Enfield, CT 06082

2004 Chrysler Pt Cruiser
VIN: 3C4FY58B34T234485
Louis Concepcian
198 Brown Ave
Holyoke, MA 01040

2004 Honda Nss250s
VIN: JH2MF06734K000774
Judy Madore
111 Highridge Rd
Southington, CT 06489

2004 Jeep Liberty

2004 Volkswagen Passat
VIN: WVWPD63B14E186434
Devin Abdul Qawi Avshalom Smith
231 Starr St
New Haven, CT 06511

2005 Gmc Savana G3500
VIN: 1GDJG31V251906563
El Encanto
905 Summit Ave
Union City, NJ07087

2007 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFG12637H549499
Margaret Vineis
732 Broadway, Apt 3
Sommerville, MA 02144

2008 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL21E98N421544
John Adamczyk
91 Burlington Dr
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

2008 Scion TC
VIN: JTKDE167680249839
Jemeily Castro Figueroa
303 Maple St, Apt 249
Springfield, MA 01105

2008 Toyota Yaris
VIN: JTDJT923085194518
Sherwyn Cooper
625 Thomas Burgin Pkwy,
Apt 607
Quincy, MA 02169

2009 Nissan Sentra
VIN: 3N1AB61E39L622655
Benedict Cooper

2010 Acura MDX
VIN: 2HNYD2H21AH513743
Christian Castro-Colon
116 Hancock St
Springfield, MA 01105

2010 Chevrolet Impala
VIN: 2G1WA5EN4A1100187
Haas Inc
6 Boulder Pkwy
North Oxford, MA 01537

2012 Mitsubishi Galant
VIN: 4A32B2FF3CE019351
Derek Mccarthy
5R Smith St
Rockport, MA 01966

2012 Tao Tao
VIN: L9NTCBAE6J1012337
Unknown

2013 Chrysler 200LX
VIN: 1C3CCBAB8DN735905
Daniel Delisle
1847 Glasgo Rd
Jewett City, CT06351

2013 Nissan Pathfinder
VIN: 5N1AR2MM4DC614228
Thomas Cleary
Po Box 657
Castleton, VT 05735

2017 Victory Octane
VIN: 5VPFTB006H3001808
Carlos Lopez
145 Florence St
Springfield, MA 01105
12/11, 12/18, 12/25/2020

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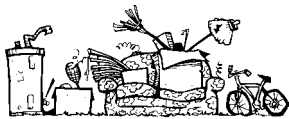
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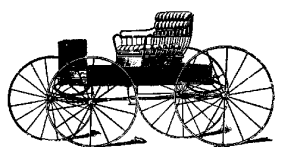
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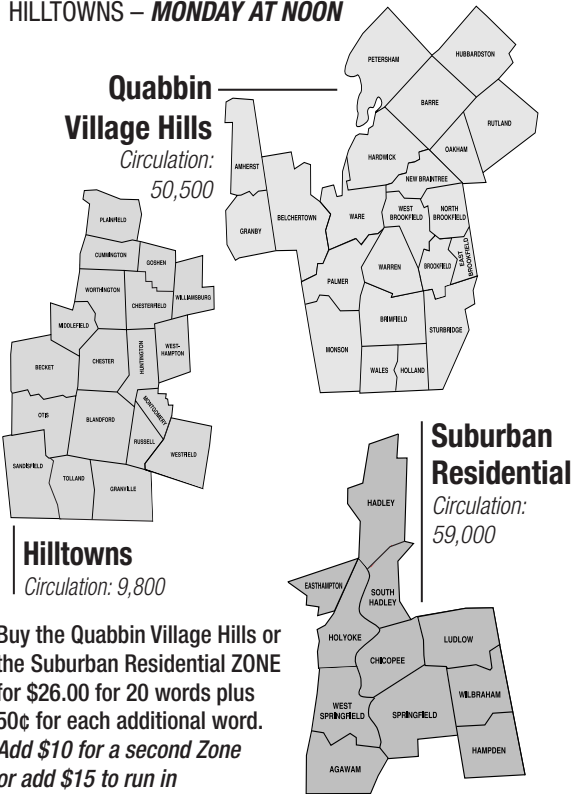
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HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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FRIDAY
AT NOON

HILLTOWNS
MONDAY
AT NOON

BUSINESS

PeoplesBank promotes three Chicopee residents

HOLYOKE – PeoplesBank has announced the following key promotions:

Christina Bordeau has been promoted to Assistant Vice President, Banking Center Manager for the High Street, Holyoke location. Bordeau has more than 24 years of financial services and banking experience having served in various retail banking roles.

A resident of Chicopee, Bordeau attended Springfield Technical Community College where she had a concentration in finance and business management. Her volunteer services includes serving on the board of directors for the Gray House, on the executive committee of the Chicopee Comprehensive High School Friends of Football, as a committee member for Credit for Life, as a financial literacy volunteer for the St. Joan of Arc School, and as chair and bookkeeper for the



Christina Bordeau



Danielle Rosario



Michael Gay

St. Rose De Lima Church bingo committee.

Michael Gay has been promoted to Vice President, Banking Center Manager for the Amherst location. Gay has more than 20 years of retail and banking experience.

A resident of Chicopee, Gay's volunteer services includes serving as Vice President of Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, as a big brother for Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Diego, as a volunteer for the Therapeutic Equestrian Center, as a

volunteer and fundraising Team Captain for JDRF, and as a volunteer for Socks for the Homeless of San Diego.

Danielle Rosario was promoted to Vice President, Banking Center Manager, for the Chicopee location. Rosario has more than 17 years of banking experience.

A Chicopee native, Rosario's volunteer service includes serving on the board of directors for the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce and on the organization's membership and nominating committees. She also teaches financial literacy at local non-profit organizations and volunteers at the Downtown Get Down, Halloween Spooktacular, and Holiday Tree Lighting ceremonies.

Baystate Health receives first shipment of vaccine

SPRINGFIELD – The first COVID vaccine to receive Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) by the FDA is currently being shipped to health systems and hospitals around the country.

Baystate Health this week in its initial shipment of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine received a very limited number of vaccine doses – 1,950 – which were immediately placed in ultra-cold storage until vaccinations began on Wednesday.

The vaccine will be distributed to select categories of our clinically facing team members based on their relative risk of exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace. System employees first offered the vaccine – will be those at highest relative risk based on:

- The community prevalence
- Local transmission rates
- Type of work unit
- Patient volumes in distinct locations.

Baystate Health expects to receive more doses of the Pfizer vaccine and potentially others (the Moderna vaccine is expected to receive Emergency Authorization Use later this week) over the next several weeks and plans to expand vaccination to addition groups of health care workers at that time.

According to Massachusetts state guidelines and for much of the country, the coronavirus vaccine will not be available to the general public until April.

As already noted above, those who will receive the vaccine first as part of "Phase One" are front-line health care workers and long-term care staff and residents. They will be followed by police, firefighters, and emergency medical workers,

home-based health workers, and other "non-COVID facing" health workers, according to the state's distribution plan.

As for "Phase Two" priority groups, it will include residents with two or more chronic illnesses, essential workers such as teachers, transit employees and food, sanitation, public works, and public health

workers, according to the state's priority list.

After that will come adults who are 65 and over and individuals with one co-morbidity making them at higher risk for COVID-19. The vaccine will be available to the general public beginning in April as part of "Phase Three."

Early Deadlines

for all PUBLIC NOTICES...

to run the week of
December 21-25, 2020:

- **Thursday, Dec. 17 at NOON**
The Register, Sentinel,
The Wilbraham-Hampden Times,
Agawam Advertiser News,
Quaboag Current
 - **Friday, Dec. 18 at Noon**
Barre Gazette, Country Journal,
Ware River News
The Journal Register
 - **Monday, Dec. 21 at noon**
Town Reminder,
Chicopee Register and
The Holyoke Sun
- Happy Holidays!*

Happy New Year!

to run the week of
December 28 -
January 1, 2021:

- **Wednesday, Dec. 23 at noon**
The Register, Sentinel,
The Wilbraham-Hampden Times,
Agawam Advertiser News,
Quaboag Current, Barre Gazette,
Country Journal, Ware River News
The Journal Register
- **Monday, Dec. 28 at noon**
Town Reminder, Chicopee Register
and The Holyoke Sun

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Deadline will be
**NOON -
FRI., DEC. 18**
for the week of
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NEW YEAR,
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Deadline will be
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WED., DEC. 23**
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